

Message Text

SECRET

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42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 011206Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5193

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

COMMUSSAG

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 3090

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CB

SUBJECT: ALLEGED FORMATION OF "KHMER NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT"

REF: A. PHNOM PENH 1996 (NOTAL

B. VIENTIANE 1051 (NOTAL)

C. PHNOM PENH 512 (NOTAL)

D. FBIS BANGKOK 010305Z MAR 74

1. WE ARE INTRIGUED BY BANGKOK NEWSPAPER NATION'S REPORT (REF D) THAT A "KHMER NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT " WAS FORMED FEBRUARY 14 IN PHNOM PENH TO UNITE "ALL KHMER FORCES OPPOSED TO LON NOL'S GOVERNMENT UNDER A SINGLE BANNER, INCLUDING THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF GRUNK/FUNK." WE HAVE NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER THAT SUCH AN ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN FORMED (ALTHOUGH WE ARE LOOKING FURTHER INTO THE MATTER) AND WONDER IF THIS IS NOT A FABRICATION OF WOULD-BE PEACE INTERMEDIARIES.

2. THE NATION'S DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S LEADER AS A "PROMINENT POLITICIAN IN PHNOM PENH WHO RECENTLY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED HIS OPPOSITION TO LON NOL" SOUNDS, OF COURSE, VERY MUCH LIKE SON SANN. SON SANN, HOWEVER, HAS TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NEVER USED THE REVOLUTIONARY TERM "LIBERATION FRONT" PREFERRING "POPULAR SECRET

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MOVEMENT FOR PEACE". HE HAS ALSO BEEN PUBLICLY REJECTED BY FUNK/

GRUNK, WHICH HE BOASTS IS PROOF THAT HE IS NOT IN THEIR CAMP.

3. THE TERM "KHMER LIBERATION MOVEMENT" WAS USED BY FORMER GKR MINISTER OF DEFENSE U SAY TO DESIGNATE ENEMY ELEMENTS WITH WHOM HE ALLEGEDLY HOPED TO NEGOTIATE (REF B). U SAY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE GERMAN NATIONAL IN VIENTIANE, DR. HENN (REF C), WHO IS A FABRICATOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND HAS MANY BANGKOK CONTACTS. THE THOUGHT OCCURS TO US THAT DR. HENN AND FRIENDS, WHO QUOTE CLEARLY HOPE TO PASS THEMSELVES OFF AS A CHANNEL FOR NEGOTIATIONS, MAY HAVE FABRICATED THIS ORGANIZATION.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT BANGKOK MIGHT THROW ON THE SOURCE OF THE NATION'S STORY.
ENDERS

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NNN

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